

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM: SAC, WFO (139-New)

ROBERT A. MAHEU, RAYMOND A. ~~FIRST NAME UNKNOWN~~  
TAGGART, JAMES M. O'LEARY;  
Alleged Tap on FNU STERNBERG  
(PH), WDC, for ten-day period  
in First Half of 1955.

UPUC ~~UNAUTHORIZED FURNISHING OR USE OF COMMUNICATIONS~~

4/16/57

Attorney FRANCIS X. WALSH, 1756 Q Street, N.W., WDC, was interviewed on 4/9/57, in connection with an investigation entitled, "JOHN JOSEPH FRANK, wa. RA; IS-DR," Bufile 97-3293. WALSH advised that he and FRANK were associates in the practice of law for about eight months during 1955 and he stated that some time during the Summer of 1955, on a Saturday afternoon after he and FRANK had closed the office, they walked north on 15th Street and entered the apartment building located at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue. WALSH recalled that they entered an apartment on the ground floor of this apartment house where a tape recorder was operating and was controlled by an individual whom he described as about 50 years old, 185 lbs., gray hair, florid complexion, rather handsome appearance, well educated, a heavy drinker who was a former SA of the FBI as well as a former Major in the Military Police Corps, and had an Irish sounding name.

WALSH stated that he realized from the conversation between this individual and FRANK that this individual was recording telephone conversations. WALSH stated that it was his recollection that this individual was occupying this apartment on a temporary basis and that the real tenants were out of town. He also was of the opinion that when he was at this apartment, the tap had been on for a period of four or five days. WALSH pointed out that he could not recall the location of this apartment and when it was suggested that he accompany the interviewing agents to this address, he stated that it would do no good inasmuch as he was positive he could not point out the pertinent apartment.

SE 5

RECORDED-32

4 APR 24 1957

3 - Bureau  
1 - WFO

DMG:rcs

ova

EX-131

REC'D 11-1-57  
E 81  
RECEIVED - SIGNATURE

PERS. FILES

52 MAY (4) 1957

AIRTEL

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Belmont

In connection with this tap, WALSH explained that he was sure that it was a business deal inasmuch as the individual whose name was tapped was reportedly a businessman. He stated that he did not know if FRANK and this other man were using this information for themselves or if they had been hired to install this device by some client unknown to him.

On 4/12/57, JAMES MALCOLM O'LEARY, 1703 Q Street, N.W., WDC, advised that he was a former SA of the FBI having worked for the FBI from 1931 to 1940. He pointed out that he was presently unemployed and had had no steady employment since 6/55.

During the interview of O'LEARY concerning his knowledge of JOHN FRANK, O'LEARY was questioned as to any knowledge he might have of a wire tap which was operating in an apartment at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W. O'LEARY readily admitted that he was the individual who was operating the recording device for a tap and that the recorder was in an apartment of former Agent LODER L. PATTERSON. O'LEARY pointed out that PATTERSON did not know of this device inasmuch as PATTERSON was in Florida during the period of time the recorder was in his apartment. O'LEARY explained that prior to PATTERSON's leaving town, he had made arrangements with PATTERSON to use his apartment and that all equipment was removed before PATTERSON returned from his trip to Florida.

O'LEARY stated that at the time he was operating this recorder, he was working for ROBERT A. MAHEU and his immediate supervisor was ROBERT A. TAGGART.

O'LEARY related that he has not worked for MAHEU since 6/55, and that this particular operation was prior to that time; however, he could not recall the specific dates but stated that it was some time between January and June, 1955. O'LEARY further advised that the tap was not in existence for more than ten days.

O'LEARY stated that he did not know who installed this tap inasmuch as MAHEU made it a practice not to divulge all of his information to the men working on the cases.

Miss Price of Personnel Records said  
\* PERSONNEL FILES DO NOT  
REVEAL PATTERSON 4/17/57  
WADS 4/17/57 8:30 AM

WFO 139-New

b6  
b7C

O'LEARY stated that he could not recall the name of the individual on whom the tap was placed but said it was STERNBERG (ph) or a name similar to that. He stated that he could not recall what business STERNBERG was in and the only thing he could recall regarding the conversations he heard lead him to believe that [redacted]  
[redacted] was [redacted] and that [redacted] in Texas kept calling and tried to [redacted]

O'LEARY advised that to his knowledge, JOHN FRANK never visited this installation nor did he know a man by the name of FRANK WALSH. He stated that when he desired relief from his duties at this apartment, he called MAHEU's office and WILLIAM REDDEN, who is now deceased, came to relieve him.

Several persons interviewed in the "FRANK" case have described both WALSH and O'LEARY as heavy drinkers.

The facts of this case will be submitted in a report suitable for dissemination, if the Bureau so desires, to the Criminal Division of the Department of Justice for determination as to whether the Department desires full investigation since there is a possibility that there is a violation of the Federal Wire Tapping Law.

A report will be submitted to the Bureau in this matter by 4/19/57.

cc: G.W. Belmont

4-16-1957

AIRTEL

TO: DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM: SAC, WFO (139-NEW)

4/17/57

*4/17/57*

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Trotter
Miss Nease
Tel. Room
Mr. Edleman
Miss Gandy

*139-570-4*

ROBERT A. MAHEU;  
RAYMOND A. TAGGART;  
JAMES M. O'LEARY;  
Alleged Tap on (FNU) Sternberg (ph)  
WDC, for a Ten-day Period in First  
Half of 1955  
UPUC

Re WFOairtel dated 4/16/57 furnishing allegation  
captioned above which was received during the course of  
a current investigation in the cases entitled, "JOHN  
JOSEPH FRANK, wa., RA; IS-DR," (BUfile 97-3293) and  
"GERALD LESTER MURPHY, wa., RA; IS-DR." (BUfile 105-55574)

The Bureau will note that all three captioned  
subjects are former SAs of the FBI and all have been  
interviewed and have furnished information in connection  
with the FRANK and MURPHY cases. In this connection,  
MAHEU has furnished certain records of the Robert A. Maheu  
Associates, 1125 19th St., N.W., which has been most  
pertinent to the investigation of the FRANK and MURPHY cases.  
The possibility exists that MAHEU, TAGGART, and O'LEARY  
could conceivably be subpoenaed before a Federal Grand Jury  
presently hearing the FRANK case and/or be requested to  
testify in any forthcoming trial in connection with their  
statements made concerning FRANK.

The Bureau should also note that

b7D

The foregoing is being submitted for the information  
of the Bureau.

3 - Bureau

1 - WFO

PJM:PLR/mec

(4)

AIRTEL

RECORDED-32

MR. ROSEN

139-570-4  
APR 18 1957 6:45 P.M.  
FBI - WASH. D. C.  
cc: Bureau Div.

RECD - ESPIONAGE  
F B I

APR 19 19 33 AM '57

The attached communication indicates a wire tap was installed in an apartment at 1500 Mass Ave., N.W., Washington, D.C., in early 1955, operated by former SA James Malcolm O'Leary. O'Leary was employed at the time by Robert A. Maheu, former SA, and the recorder installed in the apartment of Loder L. Patterson. Washington Field Office is submitting a closing report by 4/19/57 suitable for dissemination to the Criminal Division in order that an opinion can be obtained as to whether the Department desires a full investigation since there is a possibility that these individuals violated the Federal Wire Tapping Law.

APR 19 19 33 AM '57

b7D

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office WASHINGTON FIELD	Office of Origin WASHINGTON FIELD	Date 4/19/57	Investigative Period 4/9, 12, 18/57
TITLE OF CASE  ROBERT A. MAHEU, RAYMOND A. TAGGART; JAMES M. O'LEARY; ALLEGED TAP ON (FNU) STERNBERG (PHONETIC) WASHINGTON, D. C., FOR A TEN-DAY PERIOD IN FIRST HALF OF 1955		Report made by JOHN R. TIERNEY	Typed By: CBB
CHARACTER OF CASE UNAUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OR USE OF COMMUNICATIONS			

## Synopsis:

In Summer of 1955, FRANCIS X. WALSH accompanied JOHN JOSEPH FRANK to an apartment in 1500 Mass. Avenue Apartments. While there he observed an individual operating a tape recorder on a telephone tap. JAMES MALCOLM O'LEARY on 4/12/57, admitted he had operated this tap in 1955 while employed by ROBERT A. MAHEU and RAYMOND A. TAGGART. O'LEARY could only recall name of person whose phone was tapped was (FNU) STERNBERG (phonetic). MAHEU, TAGGART and O'LEARY former SA's, FBI.

AGENCY *Photo - on - re. Jim O'Leary*  
REQ. REC'D 5-6-57  
REP'T FORW. 5-26-57  
BY *ccy - mrs*

AGENCY *Photo - CSC 2-22-59 1619*  
REQ. REC'D 1-27-59  
REP'T FORW. 2-12-59  
BY *Clyde - mrs*

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.: *Bo. Raymond A. Taggart*

On April 9, 1957, SA's DARWIN M. GREGORY and CHARLES B. TEBBS interviewed FRANCIS X. WALSH, 1756 Q Street, N. W., a practicing attorney, in connection with another investigation. During the course of this interview, WALSH furnished the following information to Agents GREGORY and TEBBS.

Approved <i>John</i> Copies made:	Special Agent in Charge	Do not write in spaces below		
2 - Bureau 3 - Washington Field (139-31)  <i>3 - Copies auto</i> <i>5 - 10-57</i>  <i>500 rapidly</i>		139 - 510 - 3 SE 12		
		5-3		RECORDED - 53
		15 APR 23 1957		INDEXED - 53

Property of FBI - This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

67 MAY 15 1957

WFO 139-31

WALSH advised he and JOHN JOSEPH FRANK had formerly been associates in the practice of law during the first eight months of 1955. He stated that some time during the Summer of 1955, on a Saturday afternoon after closing their office, he and FRANK were walking on Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., and FRANK indicated he, FRANK, desired to stop in the 1500 Massachusetts Avenue Apartments. WALSH accompanied FRANK to an apartment located on the ground floor of 1500 Massachusetts Avenue Apartments.

WALSH advised that on entering the apartment he observed a tape recorder in operation. This tape recorder was being operated by an individual unknown to him whose name was not mentioned to him by FRANK. He described this individual as about fifty years old, 185 pounds, gray hair, florid complexion, and who FRANK indicated to him was a former Special Agent of the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI).

WALSH determined from conversation between this individual and FRANK that the tape recorder was being used to record telephone conversations. From conversation at the time, WALSH reached the conclusion that the telephone tap had only been in existence for four or five days. WALSH never was informed of the identity of the individual whose phone was being tapped, but from conversation at the time it appeared the individual was a businessman and the tap had been placed in connection with a business deal.

WALSH stated he did not know if the information obtained on the telephone tap was being used by the individual operating the tape recorder or whether this individual was in the employ of some other person.

On April 12, 1957, SA's GREGORY and ROBERT G. MOOREFIELD interviewed JAMES MALCOLM O'LEARY, 1703 Q Street, N. W.

O'LEARY advised he was a former Special Agent of the FBI having been employed by the FBI from 1931 to 1940. He stated he was presently unemployed and had had no steady employment since June of 1955.

WFO 139-31

O'LEARY readily admitted he was the individual who was operating a tape recorder to record telephone calls in an apartment at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., in the Summer of 1955. O'LEARY stated at the time he was operating this telephone tap he was employed by ROBERT A. MAHEU. His immediate supervisor on the job was RAYMOND A. TAGGART, an employee of MAHEU. He stated MAHEU and TAGGART were both former Special Agents of the FBI.

O'LEARY stated the apartment being used was that of LODER L. PATTERSON whom he thought was a former Special Agent of the FBI. O'LEARY pointed out that PATTERSON had no knowledge that his apartment had been used in connection with a telephone tap. He explained during the period of time this device was in operation, PATTERSON was in Florida. O'LEARY explained that prior to PATTERSON's leaving town he, O'LEARY, made arrangements with PATTERSON to live in PATTERSON's apartment while PATTERSON was away. O'LEARY stated all the equipment had been removed from the apartment before PATTERSON's return from Florida.

O'LEARY could not recall the specific dates on which he had been operating the telephone tap. He stated, however, that he had terminated his employment with MAHEU in June of 1955, and that this particular operation had been conducted prior to that time. He was unable to estimate the approximate date and could only state the telephone tap had been some time between January and June, 1955. O'LEARY stated the tap had not been in existence for more than ten days.

O'LEARY could furnish no information concerning who had installed the telephone tap pointing out that MAHEU made a practice not to furnish such information to employees of his working on a case. O'LEARY was unable to recall the name of the individual whose telephone was being tapped. To the best of his recollection, the name was STERNBERG (phonetic) or some similar name. He could not recall what business STERNBERG was in and the only thing he could recall regarding the conversations was that, from calls listened

WFO 139-31

b6  
b7C

to by him, he received the impression that [redacted] (phonetic) was [redacted] and that [redacted] in Texas, name not recalled, kept calling and tried to [redacted] over the telephone.

O'LEARY advised that, to the best of his recollection, JOHN JOSEPH FRANK had never visited this installation. He stated, to the best of his recollection, he did not know anyone named FRANCIS X. WALSH or FRANK WALSH.

*HR:mps*  
On April 18, 1957, Mrs. ANN H. CHAPMAN, Resident Manager, 1500 Massachusetts Avenue Apartments, advised SA JOHN R. TIERNEY, after checking her records, that LODER L. PATTERSON and his wife, GAYE N. PATTERSON, have occupied Apartment 238 at that building since September 1, 1954. At the time of renting the apartment, PATTERSON indicated on his application he was employed as Director of Redevelopment, Federal Housing Administration, 1001 Vermont Avenue, N.W.

Mrs. CHAPMAN stated Apartment 238, therefore, is the only apartment which had ever been occupied in the building by PATTERSON. She stated the apartment is physically located on what would normally be called the third floor. She explained the first floor is known as the lobby floor; the next floor, the first floor; and the next floor, the second floor.

On April 18, 1957, SA TIERNEY caused a check to be made of the Personnel Records, Administrative Division, FBI. These records reflect MAHEU had formerly been employed as a Special Agent from December 9, 1940, to July 24, 1947. The records reflect HAGGART had been employed as a Special Agent from April 28, 1941, to April 7, 1951. The records also reflect O'LEARY had been employed as a Special Agent from August 3, 1931, to September 3, 1940. There was no record that LODER L. PATTERSON had ever been employed as a Special Agent of the FBI.

WFO 139-31

The following description of MAHEU was furnished  
by SA PETER J. MURPHY, JR.:

Name:	ROBERT A. MAHEU
Address:	1025 Beechwood Lane
Race:	Falls Church, Virginia
Sex:	White
Age:	Male
Born:	Thirty-nine
	October 30, 1917
Height:	Waterville, Maine
Weight:	6'
Build:	185 pounds
Complexion:	Medium
Eyes:	Medium
Hair:	Brown
Occupation:	Black
	Private Investigator

The following descriptions of TAGGART and O'LEARY  
were furnished by SA GREGORY:

Name:	RAYMOND A. TAGGART
Address:	1315 Merrimack Avenue
Race:	Hyattsville, Maryland
Sex:	White
Height:	Male
Weight:	5' 9"
Build:	145 pounds
Age:	Thin
Born:	Thirty-nine
	November 26, 1917
Hair:	Brooklyn, New York
Eyes:	Dark brown
Complexion:	Brown
Occupation:	Dark
	Personnel Manager and
	Security Officer

WFO 139-31

Name: JAMES MALCOLM O'LEARY  
Address: 1703 Q Street, N. W.  
(Basement apartment)  
Race: White  
Sex: Male  
Age: Fifty-three  
Born: July 4, 1903  
Height: 6'  
Weight: 200 pounds  
Build: Medium  
Hair: Gray  
Eyes: Gray  
Complexion: Florid  
Occupation: Unemployed

- C -

WFO 139-31

FBI Personnel records were checked by Miss  
CORNELIA CUBA, Personnel Clerk, FBI.

REFERENCES

WFO airtels to Bureau dated 4/16 and 17/57.

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE

GIR *JK*  
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation

DATE: July 5, 1957

FROM *WOL* Warren Olney III, Assistant Attorney General,  
Criminal Division7-1  
WO:HP:by *W*SUBJECT: Robert A. Maheu, et al.  
Unauthorized Publication or  
Use of Communications82-16-113  
109-51-25*JK* // This refers to your April 29, 1957, transmittal memorandum  
and the report enclosed therewith. No further investigation is desired  
at this time.

RECORDED - 96

139-510-4  
10  
11 JUL 1957

EX-105

1cc WFB 0-25  
for info  
60 JUL 15 1957

Mr. Tolson
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Boardman
Mr. Belmont
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Parsons
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tamm
Mr. Trotter
Mr. Nease
Tele. Room
Mr. Holloman
Miss Gandy

JUL 8 1957

RECEIVED  
FBI - WASH. D. C.  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

JUL 9 12 16 PM '57

RECEIVED - BOARDMAN

RECEIVED JUL 9 1957  
CRIMINAL SECTION  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION

JUL 9 11 20 AM '57

JUL 9 3 51 PM '57

F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED  
ROSEN

Information was received in April 1957, which indicated a wire was installed in an apartment at 1500 Mass. Ave., N. W., Washington, D. C. in early 1955. This tap was operated by former SA James O'Leary, who was employed at the time by former SA Robert A. Maheu. O'Leary's supervisor was former SA Raymond A. Taggart. A report was sent to Olney 4/29/57.

RECEIVED  
F B I  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE

RECEIVED  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
CRIMINAL SECTION  
F B I

JUL 8

U. S. DEP

RECEIVED  
U. S. DEPT. OF JUSTICE  
INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
CRIMINAL SECTION  
F B I

JUL 8 6 20 PM

JUL 8 7 21 PM

JUL 8 16 PM '57  
JUL 8 20 PM '57  
JUL 8 21 PM '57

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reporting Office WASHINGTON FIELD	Office of Origin WASHINGTON FIELD	Date 11/24/58	Investigative Period 10/15, 20, 21; 11/14, 17/58
TITLE OF CASE "CHANGED" ROBERT A. MAHEU; RAYMOND A. TAGGART; JAMES M. O'LEARY; JOHN JOSEPH FRANK; ALLEGED TAP ON VARNUM STEINBAUGH, WASHINGTON, D. C., FOR A TEN DAY PERIOD IN FIRST HALF OF 1955		Report made by HERBERT J. MORGAN, JR.	Typed By cjv
		CHARACTER OF CASE UNAUTHORIZED PUBLICATION OR USE OF COMMUNICATIONS	

Synopsis:

LOUIS J. RUSSELL heard from JAMES M. O'LEARY that JOHN JOSEPH FRANK arranged for wire tap on VARNUM STEINBAUGH, WDC, Winter of 1955. Investigation and wire tap conducted by Robert A. Maheu Associates, WDC, to determine extent of STEINBAUGH's influence with Federal Power Commission. THOMAS W. LAVENIA told by RAYMOND A. TAGGART that tap arranged by FRANK. MAHEU's client was Eastern Pipe Line Company.

AGENCY photo-CSC 2) 22-59-1619

- C -  
REQ. REC'D 1-27-59  
REP'T FORW. 2-12-59

BY GED-12-27

DETAILS: AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

The title of this report is being changed to add the name JOHN JOSEPH FRANK and substitute the name VARNUM STEINBAUGH for (FNU) STERNBERG (phonetic). This information was furnished by LOUIS J. RUSSELL and THOMAS W. LAVENIA.

Approved <i>J.V. Boardman</i> Copies made: Bureau 1-Washington Field (139-31)	Special Agent In Charge <i>get</i>	Do not write in spaces below	
		139-510-15	MCT-12
		NOV 26 1958	REC-13
			X-36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
INTERVIEW REPORT

October 23, 1958

LOUIS J. RUSSELL, whose mailing address is 12303 Dewey Road, Silver Spring, Maryland, and who is employed on the staff of the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) advised that he was employed by ROBERT A. MAHEU of Robert A. Maheu Associates, Washington, D. C., from approximately May, 1954, to May, 1955.

He advised that during the Winter of 1955, for approximately one week, encompassing George Washington's birthday, a wire tap had been operated by MAHEU's organization on the residence telephone of VARNUM STEINBAUGH at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N.W., Washington, D. C. JAMES O'LEARY, an employee of MAHEU, told RUSSELL about the above wire tap and stated that JOHN JOSEPH FRANK, a Washington attorney, had arranged for the placing of the wire tap. RUSSELL did not know the manner in which the wire tap had been installed or through whom it had been installed. RUSSELL said he had no personal knowledge of this wire tap.

According to RUSSELL, STEINBAUGH was believed to be a lobbyist who had been retained by the Michigan Consolidated Gas Company, American Louisiana Pipe Line Company, and American Natural Gas Company. It was believed

[redacted] Eastern Pipe Line Company, that the above companies, through STEINBAUGH, were exerting undue influence on the Federal Power Commission. MAHEU's organization was hired by [redacted] to ascertain if this was true.

b6  
b7c

During the investigation RUSSELL did surveillance work and stated that it became apparent that someone from MAHEU's organization had attempted to sell information concerning the investigation to the STEINBAUGH group. It was also apparent that some information had been furnished to STEINBAUGH, and he was aware of the investigation. RUSSELL stated that MAHEU refused to advise [redacted] of this. RUSSELL took it upon himself to advise [redacted] concerning this matter. This, in effect, ended the investigation.

Interview with LOUIS J. RUSSELL File # WFO 139-31

on 10/15/58 at Washington Field Office Date Dictated: 10/16/58

by Special Agents HERBERT J. MORGAN, JR., and RICHARD B. KELLOGG/cjv

WFO 139-31

RUSSELL stated that FRANK and WILLIAM REDDEN went to Detroit, Michigan, on this case, and FRANK introduced REDDEN to an informant who was supposed to [redacted] He stated that the informant "double crossed" REDDEN and furnished false information.

b6  
b7C

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
INTERVIEW REPORT

October 27, 1958

LOUIS J. RUSSELL, whose mailing address is 12303 Dewey Road, Silver Spring, Maryland, and who is employed on the staff of the House Committee on Un-American Activities (HCUA) advised that he recalled the name of the informant introduced to WILLIAM REDDEN by JOHN J. FRANK as [redacted] (phonetic). He further recalled that [redacted] was supposed to obtain [redacted] and furnish same to REDDEN. He recalled that the [redacted] furnished by [redacted] were fabricated.

b6  
b7C

Although he had no personal knowledge of the wire tap on STEINBAUGH, JAMES O'LEARY told him that the apartment of LODER (LNU), 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C., had been used as a monitoring plant. He further heard that this person had been used as an informant in the matter. O'LEARY told RUSSELL that LODER was aware that the tap was in existence but was out of town while the tap was actually operated. According to RUSSELL, he had been told by O'LEARY that MAHEU visited the monitoring plant one evening for an unknown reason to see O'LEARY.

While working surveillance on STEINBAUGH, RUSSELL, on one occasion, placed himself immediately adjacent to the door of STEINBAUGH's apartment and heard STEINBAUGH dictating a letter to an unknown party, apparently via telephone, concerning an agreement between LESLIE BIFFLE (phonetic), a lobbyist, and the gas companies which STEINBAUGH represented. According to RUSSELL this agreement was to effect more favorable light on these gas companies from Federal agencies. He stated that he also heard STEINBAUGH, on this occasion, call a mental hypnotist in New Orleans, Louisiana. This individual apparently was attempting to [redacted]

b6  
b7CInterview with LOUIS J. RUSSELL File # WFO 139-31on 10/20/58 at Washington, D.C. Date Dictated: 10/22/58by Special Agents LEO E. SAUER and HERBERT J. MORGAN, JR./cjv

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
INTERVIEW REPORT

October 27, 1958

THOMAS W. LAVENIA, Associated Investigators, 801 19th Street, N. W., Washington, D. C., who resides at 5919 Frederick Street, Springfield, Virginia, advised that he had office space with ROBERT A. MAHEU in Washington, D. C., from April, 1955, to June, 1955, at which time he became a business associate of MAHEU. He stated he maintained this association until May, 1956.

When he first obtained office space with MAHEU, he was told by an unrecalled individual that MAHEU had been responsible for a wire tap on VARNUM STEINBAUGH at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., Washington, D. C. LAVENIA had no personal knowledge concerning this, but believes it happened prior to his association with MAHEU. He was told by RAYMOND A. TAGGART, a MAHEU employee, that the tap had been arranged by JOHN JOSEPH FRANK, a Washington, D. C., attorney. He was also told that LODER PATTERSON, a good friend of FRANK, had an apartment at 1500 Massachusetts Avenue, N. W., which was used for monitoring the phone calls. He did not know if PATTERSON was aware of this.

- C -

Interview with THOMAS W. LAVENIA File # WFO 139-31

on 10/21/58 at Washington Field Office Date Dictated: 10/22/58

by Special Agent S. HERBERT J. MORGAN and RICHARD B. KELLOGG/cjv

Property of FBI. This report is loaned to you by the FBI, and neither it nor its contents are to be distributed outside the agency to which loaned.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI

DATE: 11/24/58

FROM *BB* SAC, WFO (139-31)SUBJECT: ROBERT A. MAHEU, et al  
UPUC  
(OO: WFO)*L 7-1*

Attached hereto are two copies for the Bureau of report of SA HERBERT J. MORGAN, JR., dated and captioned as above.

REFERENCE:

Report of SA JOHN R. TIERNEY dated 4/19/57,  
at WDC.

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The information set forth in attached report was furnished by RUSSELL and LAVENIA during the course of interviews in the case entitled "JESUS DE GALINDEZ - SUAREZ; MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING" Bufile 100-375346.

By letter 7/5/57, to the Director from WARREN OLNEY, III, Assistant Attorney General, Criminal Division, it was stated that no further investigation was desired based on referenced report. In view of this no further inquiries will be made by WFO. It is noted that the information in attached report was volunteered by the individuals interviewed and further information was not elicited by interviewing agents.

LOUIS J. RUSSELL, in addition to the information in the attached report, stated that the Federal Power Commission was aware that the American Natural Gas Company was exerting pressure on a Commissioner whose last name was SMITH. The Commission was interested in ascertaining the extent of this pressure. RUSSELL indicated the information obtained during investigation was being made available to the Commission.

✓ 2-Bureau (Encs. 2)  
1-WFO  
HJM:cjv *ENCLOSURE*

REC-13

139-510-6

4 NOV 26 1958

*STOP*

30 DEC 8 1958 *107*  
1cc report to *John Anderson*  
12/4/58  
EDH/Sec

WFO 139-31

LAVENIA furnished the following additional information. He believed that MAHEU's contact in WDC, for wire taps and "black-bag jobs" was Captain JOSEPH W. SHIMON, General Assignment, MPD. He stated that he has seen MAHEU meet SHIMON in 1956, at a service station located at 19th and L Streets, N.W. Just prior to observing this LAVENIA heard MAHEU speak with an unknown person on the telephone and say that he would meet the unknown party at the usual place.

LAVENIA also stated that he has a file in his office concerning the STEINBAUGH investigation, and he would make this available to the FBI at any time.